

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/705,089

Applicant(s)

HIRAYAMA, TOMOSHI

Examiner

Oanh Duong

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/02/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14,16,18-20 and 41-45.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 04/29/06.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

INTERVIEW SUMMARY.

1. Applicants' representative, Raymond F. Cardillo Jr., authorized examiner to amend claims as in examiner's amendment.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The invention as claimed, independent claim 14 specially includes limitation based on *initially generating a request for information at an information providing apparatus from the user apparatus, the initial request not identifying the user apparatus; transferring the initial request not identifying the user apparatus from the information providing apparatus to an information relaying apparatus in response to said initially generating step; sending information related to the initial request and a user identifier identifying the user apparatus from the user apparatus to the information relaying apparatus after the transferring step; and said information relaying apparatus displays a second object for inputting said information relating to the initial request in a first state that is not viewed by said information providing apparatus and transfers the information related to the initial request to said information relaying apparatus in a second state that is not viewed by said information providing apparatus* (as defined in the specification of the invention in page 22 line 16-page 23 line 20). While method for providing anonymous browsing is firmly documented by cited prior art, the initially generating a request for information at an information providing apparatus from the user apparatus, the initial request not identifying the user apparatus; transferring the initial request not

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identifying the user apparatus from the information providing apparatus to an information relaying apparatus in response to said initially generating step; sending information related to the initial request and a user identifier identifying the user apparatus from the user apparatus to the information relaying apparatus after the transferring step; and said information relaying apparatus displays a second object for inputting said information relating to the initial request in a first state that is not viewed by said information providing apparatus and transfers the ~~input~~ information related to the initial request to said information relaying apparatus in a second state that is not viewed by said information providing apparatus limitations are novel and the invention is patentable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Raymond F. Cardillo Jr. (Registration No. 40,440) on April 28, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

The title of the invention is changed to: **“Method for Providing Anonymous Browsing by Transferring a Request from a Server to a Relaying apparatus in response to the request generated at a Client Computer”**.

The claims of the invention are amended as follows:

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A method of communication between an information providing apparatus and a user apparatus, comprising steps of:

Initially generating a request for information at an information providing apparatus from the user apparatus, the initial request not identifying the user apparatus;

transferring the initial request not identifying the user apparatus from the information providing apparatus to an information relaying apparatus in response to said initially generating step;

sending information related to the initial request and a user identifier identifying the user apparatus from the user apparatus to the information relaying apparatus after the transferring step;

generating a customer number based on the user identifier at the information relaying apparatus;

sending the information related to the initial request and the customer number to the information providing apparatus from the information relaying apparatus;

the information providing apparatus requesting the information relaying apparatus to establish a communication path between the information providing apparatus and the user apparatus after the information providing apparatus receives the information related to the initial request and the customer number sent by the information relaying apparatus; and

establishing the requested communication path between the information providing apparatus and the user apparatus, wherein

said user apparatus accesses a web page provided by the information providing apparatus through a network and uses a predetermined first object for said initially generating the request for requesting said information provided in the web page so as to initially request said information from the information providing apparatus, and

~~said predetermined~~ said information relaying apparatus displays a second object for ~~inputs input~~ inputting said information relating to the initial request in a first state that ~~cannot be~~ is not viewed by said information providing apparatus and transfers the ~~input~~ information related to the initial request to said information relaying apparatus in a second state that ~~cannot be~~ is not viewed by said information providing apparatus.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) The method of communication as set forth in claim 14, wherein said information providing apparatus searches for a person suitable for responding to said information related to the initial request based on said information

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related to the initial request and notifies said information related to the initial request to the person.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Oanh Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-3983. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 9:30PM - 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

O.D
April 30, 2006


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER